

Stained Glass Festival

01 – 31 August 2024

St Mary's Church, Shrewsbury

During August 2024, St Mary's will host a festival celebrating the history of the church and its stained glass collection. Unless otherwise stated, events and activities will take place in St Mary's Church in Shrewsbury.



SHREWSBURY
CATHEDRAL

The festival is part of Shrewsbury Arts Trail: shrewsburyartstrail.com The festival is free to attend – donations welcome.



Nicola Hopwood

01-31 August 2024, Mon-Sat,
10:00-16:00

We are excited to announce that Nicola Hopwood, a stained glass artist from the Herefordshire/Powys border, will be exhibiting a selection of beautiful window designs during the festival. Nicola has used handmade mouthblown glass to create windows for churches, hospitals, libraries, schools, a ruined castle, and many private houses. The colours, shapes and textures are all inspired by nature and the countryside. Nicola runs short courses teaching beginners and advanced learners about stained glass artistry and production.

More information about her work can be found here: nicolahopwood.co.uk

Halima Cassell MBE

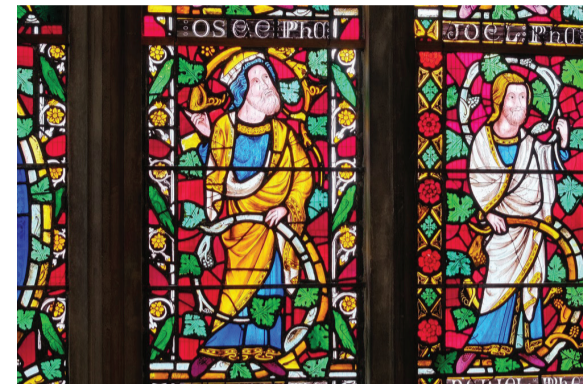
Hurricane (2021)

01-31 August 2024, Mon-Sat,
10:00-16:00

A beautiful sculpture by British artist and sculptor Halima Cassell will be displayed on the alter beneath the soaring Jesse Window. Hurricane is a large structure hand carved from fibreglass and jesmonite on a steel base. Halima was born in Kashmir, Pakistan, and grew up in north-west of England, now living in Shropshire. Her experience of different cultural environments alongside her love for Islamic art and historical British architecture have shaped her identity and underpin her practice. More can be discovered here: halimacassell.com



This installation was made possible through the great partnership with Shrewsbury Arts Trail.



Stained Glass Evening Lecture

16 August, 18:30-19:30 (please arrive at 18:00)

Robert Walker, author of *The Medieval Stained Glass of Herefordshire & Shropshire*, will deliver a talk on St Mary's glass, the trade of imported materials, and the work of David Evans. Refreshments will be included in the price of a ticket.

Book tickets via Shrewsbury Historica: shrewsburyhistorica.co.uk

Funds raised will support St Mary's 965 - the Friends of St Mary's Church

Stained glass tours

17 and 31 August, 13:30-15:30

Free - donations welcome at each site.

These tours celebrate the stained glass collections within St Mary's Church and Shrewsbury Cathedral, with focus on the amazing work of Shropshire artist Margaret Agnes Rope.

Booking not necessary. Tours start promptly at 13:30. Please arrive at the entrance of the Cathedral on your chosen date.

Tour format:

13:30-14:14: Start at Shrewsbury Cathedral for a tour of the building, overview of stained glass and Margaret Agnes Rope - led by Mark Stewart from the Margaret Agnes Rope Appreciation Trust.

14:15-14:45: Walk over to St Mary's Church (group will be led by a guide who will stop and highlight points of interest in the town).

14:45-15:30: Tour of St Mary's learning about its history and impressive continental stained glass collection.

Calligraphy & Lettering Arts Society Exhibition

12 – 31 August, Mon-Sat, 10:00-16:00

The exhibition – Letters Hand Made – will celebrate the charity's 30th anniversary. The displays will showcase forms of calligraphy and lettering arts with an opportunity to have a go.

Saturday 17 August – Calligraphy Demonstration

Kate Gravestock will demonstrate calligraphy skills and techniques with opportunities for visitors to observe and ask questions.

Two sessions: 11:00-12:30, 13:30-15:00. Free – donations welcome. This demonstration is run by the Calligraphy & Lettering Arts Society (clas.co.uk)

Saturday 24 August, 10:00-16:00 – Calligraphy Workshop with Peter Furniss

Attendees will look at the script (writing style) used in some of the stained glass windows. Each person will practice the use of the broad edged calligraphy pen to produce the lettering used in the speech ribbons (banderols) in selected windows. The aim is to produce a bookmark or piece of text to take home.

Full day workshop with an hour break (please bring your own lunch or visit a local café). The workshop is limited to 12 people. Suitable for adults and older teenagers (15+). £35 per person. This workshop is run in conjunction with the Calligraphy &

Lettering Arts Society (clas.co.uk)

Book tickets via: visitchurches.org.uk – What's On page.

Saturday 31 August – Calligraphy Equipment Demonstration

Alma Swan will demonstrate how to use different calligraphy equipment with opportunities for visitors to observe and ask questions.

One session: 10:00-12:30. Free – donations welcome. This demonstration is run by the Calligraphy & Lettering Arts Society (clas.co.uk)